

Lavaca Germplasm

Canada wildrye

Elymus canadensis

Lavaca Germplasm is released as a select class of certified seed (natural track)

Origin

Lavaca Germplasm was originally collected in Lavaca County near the South Texas town of Hallettsville.

Potential Uses

Lavaca Germplasm can be used as a cool-season component in native seed mixtures for range restoration. It also can be used as a cool-season pasture planting, especially for shaded, wooded, riparian areas.



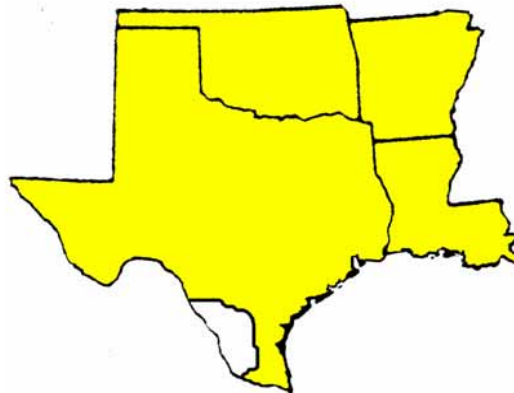
Area of Adaptation

Canada wildrye is found throughout most of the state of Texas. It can be found scattered on shaded stream banks, along fencerows and in open woodlands. Canada wildrye has performed well on both coarse and fine textured soils.

Establishment

Seedbed preparation should begin well in advance of planting. Planting should be scheduled for early fall. Establish a clean, weed-free seedbed by either tillage or herbicides. Prior to planting the site should be firm and have accumulated soil moisture. Lavaca Germplasm Canada wildrye is best seeded using a native grass drill to ensure a good planting. Broadcast seedings can be used in areas not easily planted with a drill, but some type of additional coverage will be beneficial to ensure good seed to soil contact. Seed should be planted 1/4 to 1/2 inch deep on clay soils and up to 1 inch deep on coarse textured soils.

Projected Area of Adaptation of Lavaca Germplasm



A minimum seeding rate of 10 pounds of pure live seed (PLS) per acre is recommended. In planting mixtures reduce the rate according to the percent of Canada wildrye in the mixture. When broadcast seeding or planting critical areas where a dense cover is desired, a double seeding rate is recommended. Soil analysis should be performed prior to planting to determine the necessary levels of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium. Nitrogen should not be applied until the stand is established. Canada wildrye germinates quickly and produces a vigorous stand if weed competition has been controlled and sufficient rainfall has been received after planting. If 1-2 plants per square foot are present then the planting has been successful.

Management

Lavaca Germplasm Canada wildrye should not be grazed the first year. After a stand is established rotational, cool-season grazing should be used. Forage height should be utilized between 4 to 10 inches.

Canada wildrye maybe damaged by grubworms. Stands maybe treated in the summer with an appropriate pesticide to control damage. Canada wildrye stands will benefit from management that allows stands to reseed each spring.

Canada wildrye stands perform best in wooded pastures where aggressive warm-season species are not encountered. Do not plant wildrye adjacent to pastures with large concentrations of grasses like KR blue-stem or buffelgrass.

Availability of Plant Materials

Generation 0 seed (equivalent to Breeder seed) will be maintained by the USDA-NRCS Plant Materials Center, Kingsville, Texas and is available in limited quantities to interested parties for increase purposes.

For More Information

Visit our Plant Materials Internet site at <http://Plant-Materials.nrcs.usda.gov> to find more information on solving conservation problems using plants.

USDA-NRCS
Kika de la Garza
Plant Materials Center
3409 N.FM 1355
Kingsville, Texas 78363-2704
phone: (361) 595-1313
fax: (361) 595-1313

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Plant Materials Center
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Kingsville, Texas 78363-2704



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An improved
conservation plant
developed by the
Kika de la Garza
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Kingsville, Texas

